

Eastern/Moab (Grand County) Quality Improvement Committee Time Period January-March

		Review and Action Plan	Follow-up
Dash Board Items:	Meeting Dates: 12 Jan 10 2 Feb 10 2 March 10	<p>12 Jan 10 - Theresa wanted to talk about the recent development in regards to the protest against DCFS. She reports that she has had clients call her and want her to comment. They have a standard statement that they give to clients. She mentioned concerns that the attacks have become personal towards DCFS workers. Sean is not sure how much he can share, but reports that personnel changes have occurred to protect workers. These changes are regrettable due to the amount of experience and knowledge that will be put to use elsewhere.</p> <p>Sean reports that the Eastern Region leads the state in stepping children down from high cost placements and Moab is leading the region. This does not mean that children are not receiving needed services, but rather that they are receiving needed services and when appropriate, they are placed in a less restrictive and more appropriate placement that meets their needs.</p> <p>Geri expressed concern that custody and guardianship placements still must deal with some of the same issues and may not have the experience of dealing with these issues. Sean reported that a clinical therapist is available to meet with the guardian and provide training</p>	<p>12 Jan 10 - Barriers that were expressed in the November meeting were discussed: Confidentiality: DCFS has implemented Gen's suggestions for the most part in regard to using initials of clients when sending e-mails. Updated information before clients come in for assessments: Sean has asked workers to please get as much info as quickly and completely as possible to FCCBH before a client's assessment. Professional staffing: These continue to be needed as DCFS's attorney cannot meet with clients, and information needs to be shared.</p> <p>2 Feb 10 - Continue to develop the committee. Contact potential members to get them on board. Kevin will draft a letter, Theresa will work on a brochure, and Geri will attempt to obtain QIC committee brochures. Geri is asking each agency to provide Theresa with information regarding their services, along with their role in the child welfare system.</p> <p>2 March 10 – Attend the SOCC meeting and learn more about the program and look for ways we as a committee can help.</p>

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		<p>and support as needed.</p> <p>2 Feb 10 - There was a discussion regarding committee expectations, and successfully creating and maintaining the committee. The purpose and goal of the committee is bringing out the positive side of DCFS. Our main goal is becoming more visible in the community and making the public aware of services available and improving DCFS's image. Some other goals discussed were getting the community to take ownership of the child welfare system and improving the attendance at the QIC meetings. Some of the ideas presented were to do a presentation to the Grand County Counsel as well as meeting with community members and educating them on services available.</p> <p>2 March 10 - Sean review changes in the DCFS office. Sean stated that he has been transferred to the Castle Dale office as of March 11th and will be working with the TAL program there. He stated that Belinda will be the only supervisor at the Moab office now. He also said that they have lost 2 case workers recently and because of the hiring freeze they have not been able to get approval to replace those positions so the current case workers will now have a case load of 17 plus cases. He states that because of the work overload on all the DCFS workers he feels that they will not be able to attend our meetings on a regular basis and we need to proceed without them. He</p>	

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		<p>states that they will try and have someone here each month to represent DCFS, but it may not be the same person each time.</p> <p>Shawn Jack addresses the recent cut backs and states that this office has been badly hit. He suggests that we continue forward and review CPS cases and see where we can help the system improve. He addresses the Systems Of Care Committee (SOCC) and suggests that we learn about that and see where we can help. Teresa states that there is a training meeting tomorrow for the SOCC committee. We are invited to come and participate from noon to 3 and learn more about it. It will be in the Council Chambers at City Hall.</p> <p>Shawn addresses possible concerns that can arise from being short staffed. It will be possible that the high standard of quality they have had will be hard to maintain and hopefully none of the cases will slip through the cracks. He would like us to review cases and possibly give suggestions to help them.</p>	
CPS Issues:		<p>12 Jan 10 – Sean Sasser reported - Last year DCFS removed 30 children. Five of those children were from one family and they were placed with relatives. Two others were removed due to the family being stopped on the interstate by law enforcement and the children were placed with relatives. One child was removed and returned home after a couple of weeks after the parents joined drug court. A</p>	

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		family of three was placed with siblings. A homeless family recognized they could not meet their child's needs and voluntarily placed their child in foster care. They are relinquishing their rights and the child will be adopted. Two children that were taken into custody and were on their way to their placement were returned home because an absent parent was located. Of the 30 children removed, only 5 remain in custody.	